

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 057487  
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: ARA/CCA: ADBOWEN

APPROVED BY: ARA/CCA: ADBOWEN

-----002682 071138Z /20

R 070203Z MAR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT HAVANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057487

FOL MOGADISCIO 0425 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ADDIS ABABA  
DJIBOUTI NAIROBI TEHRAN USUN MAR 5, 1978 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0425

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, SO, ET

SUBJ: DISCLAIMERS OF REGULAR SOMALI FORCES IN THE OGADEN.

REF: STATE 055736

1. THE DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION IS INVITED TO THE COMMENT IN MOGADISCIO 0357 WHICH CITES BOTH REMARKS MADE BY PRESIDENT SIAD AND ACTING INFORMATION MINISTER ABDISALAM SHEIKH THAT THERE ARE EITHER NO OR INSIGNIFICANT SOMALI REGULAR FORCES IN WESTERN SOMALIA. ABDISALAM ON FEBRUARY 24 REFERRED TO NON-EXISTING SOMALI REGULAR FORCES. QUESTIONED EARLIER ON THIS SAME TOPIC AT HIS FEB 21 PRESS CONFERENCE, SIAD SAID, "IF WE HAVE SOMETHING IN THE AREA, THERE ARE (AN) INSIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF MEN."

2. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY HAS NO CLEAR IDEA WHY THE GSDR WANTS TO RETRACT THE EARLIER ADMISSION THAT IT HAD DISPATCHED UNITS OF ITS OWN ARMED FORCES TO AID IN THE STRUGGLE. THE ONLY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 057487

EXPLANATION THAT MAKES ANY SENSE TO US IS A POSSIBLE DECISION TO SHIFT TO UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE TACTICS. THE PRESENCE OF REGULAR SOMALI UNITS, HOWEVER, SEEMS FAR TOO WELL ESTABLISHED AT THIS TIME TO ADMIT ANY COVER UP FOR ANY PURPOSE.  
LOUGHRAN UNQUOTE VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMED FORCES, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, CONVENTIONAL WARFARE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE057487  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** ARA/CCA:ADBOWEN  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780102-0067  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780397/aaaadefg.tel  
**Line Count:** 60  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 20c032cc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 55736  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3415671  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DISCLAIMERS OF REGULAR SOMALI FORCES IN THE OGADEN.  
**TAGS:** PBOR, MOPS, SO, ET, (MOHAMED SIAD BARRE)  
**To:** HAVANA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/20c032cc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014